

THE CLAIMS DEFINING THE INVENTION ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. A cross-arm for a utility pole for use in low to medium voltage electricity distribution and transmission,
5 the cross-arm being metallic and coated with an insulatory coating.
 2. A cross-arm according to claim 1, wherein the cross-arm is formed as a hollow steel section.
 3. A cross-arm according to claim 1, wherein the
10 coating is a polymeric material.
 4. A cross-arm according to claim 3, wherein the coating is applied by an electrolytic powder coating process, using a powder of the polymeric material.
 5. A cross-arm according to claim 3, wherein
15 the polymeric material is nylon.
 6. A cross-arm according to claim 3, wherein the polymeric material is thermoplastic.
 7. A cross-arm according to either claim 3, wherein the polymeric material is an epoxy.
 - 20 8. A fastening system for fastening a cross-arm to a utility pole, the fastening system comprising clamping means that is securable to one of either the pole or the cross-arm, the clamping means being operative to extend about the other of the pole or cross-arm to which it is
25 secured and apply a clamping force to that member so as to fasten the cross-arm and pole together.
 9. A fastening system according to claim 8, wherein the clamping means is in the form of a saddle which incorporates end portions securable to either the pole or
30 the cross-arm and a mid portion which is operative to extend around the other of the pole or the cross-arm to which it is secured so as to apply a clamping force to that member.
 10. A fastening system according to claim 9, wherein the
35 end portions of the saddle are secured to either the pole or the cross-arm by mechanical fastening.
- A fastening system according to claim 8, further

comprising fastening means extending between the clamping means and the pole or cross-arm about which it extends.

12. A fastening system according to claim 11, wherein the fastening means is a mechanical fastener.

5 13. A fastening system according to claim 8, wherein the clamping means is metallic and coated with an insulatory coating.

14. A fastening system according to claim 13, wherein the coating is a polymeric material.

10 15. A fastening system according to claim 13, wherein the coating is applied by an electrolytic powder coating process, using the powder of a polymeric material.

16. A cross-arm assembly comprising a cross-arm according to claim 1 and a fastening system operative to fasten the
15 cross-arm to a utility pole.

17. A cross-arm assembly according to claim 16, wherein the fastening system is according to claim 8.

18. A cross-arm assembly according to claim 16, wherein the fastening system includes a seat which locates under
20 the cross-arm and which is securable to the utility pole.

19. A cross-arm assembly according to claim 18, wherein the seat is formed from a metal section coated with an insulatory coating.

20. A cross-arm assembly according claim 16, further
25 comprising an extension arm which extends upwardly from the cross-arm.

21. A cross-arm assembly according to claim 20, wherein the extension arm is metallic and coated with an insulatory coating.

30 22. A cross-arm assembly according to claim 21, wherein the extension arm is formed as a hollow steel section and incorporates a coupling at its upper end operative to receive an electricity distribution wire and a second coupling at its lower end which is operative to be
35 connected to the cross-arm.

23. A cross-arm assembly according to claim 16, further comprising an insulating medium which locates between the

pole and the cross-arm so as to provide an insulation barrier between the pole and cross-arm.

24. A utility pole incorporating a cross-arm assembly according to claim 16.

5 24. A method of securing a cross-arm to a utility pole for use in low to medium voltage electricity distribution and transmission; the method comprising the steps of:

providing clamping means arranged to clamp the cross-arm to the utility pole;

10 locating the clamping means over one of the cross-arm or the utility pole; and

securing the clamping means to the other of said cross-arm or utility pole whereby on securing the clamping means, the clamping means clamps the one member to the
15 other member to which it is secured.

26. A method according to claim 25, further comprising the step of:

fastening the clamping means to the one member.

27. A method according to claim 25, further
20 comprising the steps of providing an insulating medium and locating that medium between the pole and the cross-arm to provide an insulating barrier between the pole and the cross-arm.